

Title (en)

OBTURATING ELEMENT FOR SEALING A DEFECTIVE HEAT-EXCHANGER PIPE AND PROCESS FOR REMOVING SAID OBTURATING ELEMENT

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Application

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Abstract (en)

[origin: WO9006483A1] An obturating element (1) for sealing one end of a heat-exchanger pipe (2) consists of a hollow cylindrical part (3) which merges smoothly into a hollow conical part (4) and which has an outer diameter slightly smaller than that of the heat-exchanger pipe (2) to be sealed. The obturating element (1) is inserted in the heat-exchanger pipe (2) and expanded or rolled in order to bring it into sealing contact with the inner surface of the heat-exchanger tube (2). Means (6) for inserting a drawing tool (15) are mounted in the conical part (4). The cylindrical part (3) is roughened in the region which expands. In a process for removing the obturating element (1), a track (12a) is traced by welding along the wall of the element; as the wall shrinks, it retracts, thus releasing the obturating element (1).

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